



NEWS RELEASE

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL PARTICIPATES IN BRAKE SAFETY WEEK

~ Efforts aim to reduce the number of commercial vehicle crashes ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Col. David Brierton, director of the Florida Highway Patrol, today announced that the Patrol will participate in Brake Safety Week on Sept. 11 - 17. The special week was organized by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, North America's leading commercial motor vehicle safety enforcement organization. During Brake Safety Week, troopers will conduct commercial vehicle inspections with an added emphasis on brake components and provide educational materials to drivers. Inspection decals, valid for 90 days, will be placed on all vehicles that have no major violations.

Troopers in Jacksonville and Fort Myers will use performance-based brake testers to analyze vehicle braking efficiency and roadworthiness using advanced vehicle inspection technology. The system allows inspectors to diagnose and inspect undercarriage components throughout a vehicle without having to get under the vehicle as with a traditional inspection, which speeds up the process. The unit is completely portable and can quickly be set up or stored, allowing troopers to rapidly deploy the unit and begin working anywhere in Florida.

"Our troopers work hard to make certain the commercial motor vehicles on Florida's roadways are in compliance with industry standards," said Brierton. "The Patrol is dedicated to reducing the number of crashes that involve commercial motor vehicles on Florida's roadways by identifying those that place others in danger and placing those vehicles out of service."

Braking systems on commercial vehicles have many complicated parts that require constant inspection to ensure proper operation. Poorly adjusted air brakes and brake system defects are hazards that result in placing the vehicle out of service. Air brake issues can reduce the braking capacity for large vehicles and further increase their stopping distance, which can put everyone on the road at risk.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov, follow us on Twitter @[FDHSMV](https://twitter.com/FDHSMT) or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FDHSMT).

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